

S e r v C o m p

2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 600
Houston, Tx 77056
713/935-3600
713/935-3650 Fax
www.servcomp.net

FAX COVER PAGE

Attn:	ATTORNEY GENERAL JOHN ASHCROFT
Company:	US DEPT. OF JUSTICE
Phone No.:	202
Fax No.:	202.307.1454
From:	Bob BEDDINGFIELD
Company:	SERVComp, INC.
Phone No.:	713.935.3600 x 112
Fax No.:	713.935.3650
Date:	01.28.02
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Message:



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2700 Post Oak, Suite 600

Houston, TX 77056

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713-935-3650 fax

www.servcomp.com

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This lawsuit against Microsoft has gone on long enough. There are other issues of greater importance facing our country and there is now a settlement in place that will, hopefully, end the hostilities between our government and Microsoft.

Often overlooked throughout the course of this contentious litigation is the fact that there are many other IT companies that have built their businesses off of Microsoft's leadership and innovative products. While few of these companies are dependent upon Microsoft, they are dependent upon a reasonable stability in the marketplace. This litigation has disturbed this stability.

The strength of this settlement is that it focuses on remedies for the original issues and leaves Microsoft intact. I am therefore writing in favor of this settlement, and hope that similar actions will not be brought in the future.

Sincerely,

Bob Beddingfield
Sales Director
ServComp, Inc.
2700 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 600
Houston, TX 77056
713-935-3600, ext. 112
jrb@servcomp.com

